

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 12, 17 and 30. Applicants have also added new claims 46-59, and cancelled claims 1, 15 and 19. No new matter is added with these amendments or with the addition of new claims. A discussion of the amendments, and presentation of arguments regarding outstanding rejections, follows below.

Amendments to Cure Typographical Errors

Claims 12 and 30 are amended to replace a use of the group R₁ with the group R₄, curing a typographical error in the claims. The correction is supported in the application at page 3, lines 13-15.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 17, 18, and 20-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Harris et al. (PCT publication number WO 94/26704). Independent claims 17 and 29 are herein amended to delete the reference to “food” in the claims. Support for the amendments is found in original claim 17, and in the Detailed Description section, particularly the Study 1 and 2 Methods sections, of the application, among other places. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 17 and 29 are allowable and not anticipated by Harris since Harris does not teach or suggest methods of using the compounds for “reducing cravings to an addictive substance,” as required by the claims, as herein amended. Applicants submit that claims 18, 20-28, and 30-32, being dependent from either claim 17 or 29, are also allowable.

New claims 46-59 are presented for consideration.

New independent claim 46 is similar to amended claim 17, except that (i) the claim is drawn to a “method of reducing cravings to food” and (ii) an additional phrase has been included at the end of the claims which states “wherein the method is not used to treat obesity.” Thus, Applicants submit that claim 46 is allowable and not anticipated by Harris, because the claim is drawn to a method for reducing cravings to food, which is not taught by Harris, and because claim 46 excludes the use of the compounds for

treating obesity. New claims 47-56 depend from claim 46, and are similar to claims 2-10 and 14. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 47-56 are also allowable.

New claim 57 has a similar form to that of claim 29, except that (i) the claim is drawn to a “method of reducing craving to food” and (ii) the phrase “wherein the method is not used to treat obesity” has been added to the end of the claim. Thus, Applicants submit that claim 57, like claim 46, are allowable and not anticipated by Harris. New claims 58 and 59, being dependent from claim 57 and similar in form to claims 30 and 31, are also allowable.

For at least the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully submit that none of the pending claims are anticipated by Harris. Withdrawal of the anticipation rejection under 35 USC §102(b) is therefore requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the arguments and amendments presented, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and a notice of allowance are therefore respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that no extension of time is required for the timely consideration of this response. In the event that an extension is required, however, this conditional petition for an extension of time is requested and Applicants also request that any fees required for the timely consideration of this application be charged to deposit account number 19-4972. The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if any matters remain outstanding so that they may be resolved expeditiously.

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Respectfully submitted,



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